

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed Final Office Action mailed on April 12, 2006, including the allowance of claims 52-58 and 74-79. This Amendment and Reply is intended to be completely responsive to the Final Office Action.

Status of the Claims

Claims 29, 31, 33-36, 43-49, 51-58, and 74-79 are currently pending.

Claims 52-58, and 74-79 have been allowed.

Claims 29, 31-36, 43-49, and 51 stand rejected.

Claim 29, 31, 33-36, 43-49, and 51 are requested to be canceled without prejudice.

Claims 80-82, all of which depend from allowed claim 52 have been added.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present Application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim Rejections – Double Patenting

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 29 and 31-36 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Applicant will respond to the double patenting rejections on the merits once an indication has been received that the present claims that are being rejected for this reason are otherwise allowable. Claims 29 and 31-36 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

On pages 3-5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 29, 31, 43-49 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated. With this amendment, claims 29, 31, 43-49 and 51 have been cancelled without prejudice.

* * *

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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